



## New wheels at FESS

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Stanley Cup pays a visit to Fort Erie



• Martin says move on from Bay Beach

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# The Fort Erie Times

www.forterietimes.com

Saturday, April 2, 2011

## FEFD responds to trailer fire



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Fort Erie Fire Department (FEFD) deputy chief Keith German and station no. 1 volunteer firefighter Dave Smith assessing the situation after two calls were made to Black Creek Leisure Homes on Tuesday. Careless smoking is being deemed the cause of the small fire that was confined to the back porch of a trailer. Nobody was injured and damage is estimated to be around \$10,000. The FEFD and Niagara Regional Police were on scene for about an hour-and-a-half.

## Lighthouse getting facelift

Council approves \$1.4 million restoration of waterfront landmark

Kris Dubé  
The Times

Since the Point Abino lighthouse entered into ownership of the Town of Fort Erie back in 2002, virtually nothing has been done to improve its deteriorating condition.

After a decision made by council on Monday night, a \$1.4 million restoration project will begin almost immediately to bring the historic waterfront structure back to its full potential.

Before local politicians debated and eventually approved a report that will allow for the project to move forward, a presentation was made by an architectural firm based out of Toronto, who highlighted some of the lighthouse's flaws and what needs to be worked on.

Following their presentation, Charlene Nigh, president of the Point Abino Lighthouse Preservation Society (PALPS) thanked the firm for their concise review.

See Page 2

# Kim Craitor MPP

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# Moving ahead with improvements depletes facilities reserve fund

From Page 1

She also responded to comments made by mayor

Doug Martin that seasonal residents in the area will not appreciate heavy construc-

tion during the short period of time they are in the area.

Nigh said this is not true. "I think you'll find many of the residents are just as excited about this project as we are," she said.

"Generally speaking, we've always had a cordial

relationship with the people out there," added the PALPS president.

Nigh also explained her opposition to the Town of Fort Erie putting the lighthouse keeper's dwelling on the open market, a decision of the previous council after the building was given a heritage designation.

"It's an intrinsic part of the lighthousing and it needs to be recognized as that," said Nigh.

Council has debated whether selling the dwelling would be a way of covering the remaining costs of the restoration project. The current asking price for the keeper's dwelling is \$649,000.

For now, moving ahead with the improvements could create a two per cent increase to the 2012 general levy.

Council voted in favour of amending the 2011 capital budget to include \$1,476,598 for the initiative, while taking \$1,045,000 from the facilities maintenance reserve, \$425,000 from a Parks Canada grant and \$6,598 from a reserve set aside for the lighthouse. If the keeper's dwelling is sold, it will offset the costs

approved by council on Monday.

Ward 2 Coun. Rick Shular was hesitant to vote in favour of the allocation because it will deplete facilities reserve and there hasn't been a lot of interest in the keeper's dwelling from potential buyers.

He asked director of legal services what the response has been to date on the dwelling.

"We have not received any formal offers," she responded.

"The heritage designation probably limits to a certain extent, the number and types of purchasers who would be interested," she added.

Sean Hutton, director of facilities management was also in attendance to field any questions. When Shular asked if moving ahead with the restoration and cleaning out the reserve fund would cause any problems with future projects, Hutton said there is potential for that.

"It would have a serious impact," he said.

Shular says he appreciates the historical value the lighthouse has, but feels there are other projects and

improvements he feels to be of greater importance.

"I'm a firm believer of history and heritage, but I'm also a realist," said Shular.

"If we had access to this facility on a regular basis, I could probably put my hand up... but at this point in time, I can't support this," added the third-term councillor.

Ward 5 Coun. Don Lubberts, the representative for the area where the lighthouse stands, said more should have been done at the site a long time ago, when the Town first took over ownership from the Canadian Coast Guard in 2002.

"I think we should've already had the money" he said.

Ward 3 Coun. Bob Steckley, said it is important to fund local heritage and the Point Abino Lighthouse is something that easily falls into that category.

"I think it's an important heritage asset," he said.

In the presentation made by the firm who assessed the project costs, it was said the restoration could give the structure along the shore of Lake Erie another 70 years of life.

"It's going to out-live me and it will probably out-live my kids... and that's great," said Steckley.

Ward 4 Coun. John Hill agreed that maintaining local heritage is important to the community.

"It's part of who we are, part of how we grew up," said Hill.

The Ridgeway-Thunder Bay councillor also suggested the Town needs to work more closely with PALPS, to address ways to come up with the \$399,000 shortfall that moving ahead with the improvements will create.

"I challenge that we look at ways to mitigate that cost that \$399,000 over the course of the next 12 months," said Hill.

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**KRIS DUBÉ File Photo**  
A family taking a break during a tour of the Point Abino Lighthouse in August 2009.

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# 'Old Bank Bistro' removed from BIA board of management

Kris Dubé  
The Times

Anyone who follows local issues on the social networking website Facebook, has likely seen a post authored by Peter Koutoulakis.

Under the screen name "Old Bank Bistro," derived from the restaurant he has owned on Jarvis Street for more than five years, Koutoulakis has been highly critical of councillors Bob Steckley, John Hill, Paul Collard and Don Lubberts.

On Monday night, these four local politicians voted in favour of removing him from his position as a member of the Bridgeburg Business Improvement Area (BIA) board of management, after going into closed session to discuss the matter.

On Wednesday, Koutoulakis said he was hurt by his actions and has no regrets.

He feels the four councillors that have been the subject of his comments and their decisions like spending \$20,000 on a second legal opinion into the possible ramifications of breaking the town's private-public partnership with the Molinaro Group are not doing what is required for the betterment of all of Greater Fort Erie, and are only attempting to validate their own personal agendas and opinions.

"This is why I've been badgering these guys, they don't care about the well-being of every man, woman and child," he said.

He also takes exception to claims

made by the opposition of the Bay Beach project that the majority of local residents do not support the project, which is something he has written in many of his posts.

"I've been the biggest supporter of getting the truth out there about how many people are opposed to something in town... and it's not that many people," said Koutoulakis, who also publicly testified at the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) hearing in November.

The local restaurateur also said he had plans to voluntarily leave his position on the BIA and that stirring the pot on the Internet, was his way of simply expressing his displeasure with the way certain councillors conduct business.

"I wanted to leave the BIA, but I didn't want to drop

off the face of the Earth and not make a stink about it," said Koutoulakis.

He also claims he has been given support from fellow board members since Monday's decision and in his opinion, is a result of the positive work he has done for the BIA and other committees in town, such as playing a role in the formation of the BIA in Crystal Beach.

"A lot of the board members are with me and they really like what I'm doing, helping out in the community," said Koutoulakis.

Dave Dimberio, chair of the Bridgeburg BIA, supports Koutoulakis and says that keeping the interests of local taxpayers in mind should not be condemned.

"Peter is a well-respected business man in this town, he cares about this town and he cares about the people,"

said Dimberio, not on behalf of the committee, but in his own opinion.

In the position of a politician at any level of government, Dimberio says thick skin should always be a prerequisite and going to this length because a local busi-

ness owner doesn't agree with your decisions, is something he can't even begin to agree with.

"To me, it's like they're trying to silence any criticism against them," said Dimberio.

A special meeting will be

called for the BIA board to discuss what the next steps will be on this issue.

"We're going to discuss this and decide what action we're going to take," he said.

See Page 8



## GENERAL MEETING

**Tuesday, April 5th at 7:30 p.m.**  
at the FORT ERIE CONSERVATION CLUB  
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# Third-party legal opinion becomes public information

Report echoes advice provided by director of financial services

Kris Dubé  
The Times

Two documents that previ-

ously were considered confidential, are now public information.

On Monday, council voted in favour of taking two reports out of secrecy, on the Bay Beach issue.

The first is the report provided to council in closed session on Mar. 21 from Aird and Berlis, a Toronto-based law

firm that was contracted for \$20,000 to provide a third-party legal opinion into whether or not the Town of Fort Erie would face a lawsuit from the Molinaro Group, if the private-public partnership that is the Crystal Beach Gateway Project were to be broken.

In the report, it was warned

that the Town could be on the hook.

"In our view, if the Molinaro Group commences a lawsuit against the Town for breach of contract and if the matter goes to trial, the Town may be found liable for the Molinaro Group's expenses incurred to date, in reliance with the binding agreements it has with the Town," reads the report.

According to the document, legal counsel for the developer indicated that its client has incurred expenses in excess of \$1 million to date in respect to the project.

"If the Molinaro Group can prove that it has given up other business opportunities to pursue the project with the Town, the Molinaro Group may be entitled to recover the value of this lost opportunity

from the Town," it says in the report.

"Our best estimate is that a claim for loss of profit for a project of this size would be in the millions of dollars."

The report also says if the developer alleges council or its individual members were acting in "bad faith," punitive damages can be sought against the Town and council members.

If litigation were pursued, the report says it could cost the Town "tens of thousands of dollars per month."

On February 9, council received a different report in closed session, prepared by the Town's solicitor Heather Salter. The message in her document is similar to the one council heard from Aird and Berlis.

If the Molinaro Group took

the Town to court, Salter warned that \$100,000 for each of the next three years would need to be set aside.

If the Town lost in court, it would be exposed to paying not only its own legal expenses, but the developer's also.

She wrote that in a worst case scenario, if the Molinaro Group was successful in its lawsuit, the damage could be several million dollars.

"It should be anticipated that a claim for damages would include recovery for actual costs incurred to date, which we understand is in excess of \$1,000,000, as well as a claim for lost profits from the development. A lost profit estimate is very difficult to provide but it can be assumed that it will be a figure in the millions," wrote Salter.

Writing in favour of making these documents public were councillors Bob Steckley, John Hill, Paul Collard and Don Lubberts.

Voting in opposition to taking the documents were mayor Doug Martin and councillors Stephen Passero and Rick Shular.



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by Audra Miller, M.C.C.  
Director of Outreach

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# Bay Beach costs received

Fort Erie politicians received a staff report Monday night, outlining how much money the town has spent, and will continue to spend, as part of the Bay Beach development project, as well as the expected benefits the proposal will have on the community.

Town staff say the municipality will spend just under \$750,000 as part of the development, including \$100,000 to defend the

project at an OMB hearing in November.

Staff officials say the town could see \$2.7-million in community benefits due to the project, such as about \$815,000 from a pavilion that is proposed to be built during the development.

"The town is receiving a substantial return on its investment in the Bay Beach lands and in addition the development will provide a positive tax benefit for taxpayers on a go-for-

ward basis," the report, in part, reads.

"An overall annual net increase in revenue of \$75,500 is a 0.4% benefit to the town's portion for a median residential tax bill."

Chief administrative officer Harry Schlange was directed to complete the report as part of a motion from Coun. John Hill.

The report was approved, with only Ward 5 Coun. Don Lubberts voting in opposition.

# Door-to-door scam in Crescent Park

Young girl claims to be raising money for Multiple Sclerosis

mously using Crime Stoppers of Niagara.

To leave an anonymous tip, please contact Crime

Stoppers via telephone: 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or online at [www.niagaratips.com](http://www.niagaratips.com)

The Niagara Regional Police Service has received information from the community that a young girl, accompanied by an adult female, is going door to door in the Crescent Park subdivision of Fort Erie. The young female is soliciting donations under the premise that she is from Garrison Road School and collecting money to support Multiple Sclerosis.

Garrison Road School has advised police that they are not currently participating in a fundraiser to support Multiple Sclerosis. Anyone wishing to make any donations to charitable organizations can either make the donation directly or, in the case of door to door solicitation, request appropriate identification or contact the relevant organization.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact the 5 District detective office at (905) 688-4111 ext. 2320. Information on crimes can be submitted anonymously



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# opinion page

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## our editorial

# Bay Beach issue is 'done,' let's move on

"It's done."

This is a quote from Ward 1 Coun. Passero, made during Monday's council meeting about the Bay Beach issue.

On page 10, you will also read comments made by mayor Doug Martin, basically echoing this statement.

Yes, the Fort Erie Waterfront Preservation Association is seeking a leave to appeal through the court system, but this has nothing to do with town council.

It's now out of their hands.

There are countless other projects within Greater Fort Erie that have taken a backseat to this one controversial issue and that needs to stop.

A flurry of differing opinions has overtaken this town over this development and we understand the importance of voicing concerns, asking questions and making sure

every avenue has been explored.

At this point in time, this has been done to the utmost extent.

The Ontario Municipal Board ruled in favour of the project and experts in law, the Town's solicitor and a third-party impartial firm has said breaking the private-public partnership would have negative ramifications.

Enough said.

Continuing to challenge the credibility of Town staff is only going to make things worse and create more hostility than there already is in the local political arena.

Let's move on from this issue and start thinking about the future.

It's more important for the betterment of this town than some people realize.

It's done.

-Kris Dubé



# Do You Remember?

Last week's photo will have to go back into the unidentified people binder as we received no calls about it.

These binders are always available for viewing at the Museum at 402

Ridge Road, Ridgeway. You never know if you might find a picture of someone you know or even of yourself.

This week's photo shows a multi-talented performer.

For April Fool's, can anyone identify the man in full down make-up or the two gentlemen who seem to be his accompanists?

Please call the Museum at 905-894-5322 or e-mail museum@forterie.on.ca.

# Putting keeper's dwelling on the market the only solution



**Kris Dubé**  
 Editor's Notebook

I'm definitely not one to question the importance of local heritage and I certainly see the Point Abino Lighthouse as nothing less than a

remarkable landmark.

If we had better access to it and would actually be able to appreciate it's beauty on more than just a few select days of the summer, I could entirely support the reasoning behind sinking \$1.4 million into a restoration project of the nearly 100-year-old historic site.

The Point Abino Lightstation Preservation

Society (PALPS) is a small group of dedicated people who care deeply about the site...there is no way to deny that.

But they don't want to see the keeper's dwelling sold, because it is an integral part of the lighthouse.

True.

I can agree with that. But there are other facilities everywhere in

Greater Fort Erie that are integral parts of the community. Moving ahead with the restoration has drained the Town's facilities reserve fund and if putting the dwelling on the market is the only solution at this point... It needs to be done.

In this economy, you have to make sacrifices sometimes and this is one of those cases.

The asking price right now is \$649,000 and I don't know much about heritage real estate but my initial thought is that it's a little steep.

If it does sell for this price, it will offset the funds approved on Monday and if another Town owned facility needs repair in 2012 the taxpayers won't have to pay extra for it. It's as

simple as that.

Like I said earlier, the Lightstation is beautiful piece of Fort Erie's identity and the PALPS group is just as valuable, but sometimes you just can't have it all.

If you would like to leave me feedback, call me at (905) 871 3100 ext. 207 or send me an email at editorial@forterietimes.com.

# Opinion page

## More thoughts on Bay Beach

Dear Editor,

The couple of concerns I had over the Bay Beach were so minor that they could hardly be classified as 'against.'

I don't want 'The Citizens of Fort Erie for a Positive Future' sending me any more of their 'hate pamphlets.'

You obviously have never been through an OMB appeals process so don't make it sound like you know what you're talking about. I expressed my own experience with the OMB, the good stiff handshake and the promises at the last council meeting so I won't go there now.

The OMB does do very vigorous testing but the first question they'll ask is "Do you have a copy of the Zoning By-Law?"

What sound and factual information did the previous council gather and from whom? The approved neighborhood plan of 2003? The June 27 2009 public rally? Obviously, the last election carried the weight of more than just small part of the population.

I don't have a thing against the last council but why wasn't there any flyers expanding their personal agenda and arrogant indifference to the will of the people by pushing through new zoning by-laws. This time OMB appeals and thirteen dismissals? If the Molinaro Project didn't conform to the existing zoning by-laws, it would-

n't have taken more than one appeal to defeat it. Let me make it clear....this isn't about the last council or what they did. It's what's happened since and your kind of mentality.

Who are these self serving special interest groups you've mentioned? Can you give me the address in town here where the Molinaro plant is? Are they doing this project for free? What is your mentality doing for the Molinaro name in this town?

A very qualified architect, who I've personally worked with, Emilio Raimondo spoke in favour of the Bay Beach Project so I'm certain the Molinaros will put up a beautiful building.

I'll give you one name from your flyer that I used as an example of the way to speak at a council meeting. Former Fire Chief Jim Douglas spoke at the Feb 28 council meeting with passion and strength but not once did he degrade, insult or try to make somebody look stupid. I respected the people he was trying to get across.

I'm glad Steckley changed his mind. Not for the Bay Beach Project but for his own well-being. Most people are basically good but there are those few that won't be happy until he's lost his business and is living on the street. The same goes for the anti-development rhetoric. My minor concerns were as follows.

I don't know how much work will be generated for local contractors.

It's always been my experience that large outfits have their own people.

After four years in the Navy I've been to a number of places where the shoreline is beautifully developed but walk one block inland and the people are poor.

It works in places where the core of the town or city was already established and highly functioning. I would hate to see Crystal Beach businesses by-passed and not experience the boom they're hoping for. That's basically it. Shoot me.

The February 22 council meeting should never happen again. You commented on the councilors' unprecedented behavior. Good. I wish they were around when the old dance hall was blown up and a big muddy hole was dug that was supposed to be Fort Erie's new marina or when the amusement park was given the axe.

I was a head caretaker for thirty three years and I worry that the young people will find in the way of jobs. The Sobey's Mall, the Wal Mart - No Frills malls are all examples of the development we need. Anything that's definitely going to create jobs.

Oh, and Mayor Martin, I was a staunch supporter of where the new Town Hall and Leisureplex was located. I believe Fort Erie should plan for the future. Maybe things just got out of hand too quickly.

John Thyret  
Fort Erie

## The TIMES Asks



Ron Kurek



Paul Collard



Bob Cain



Helen Vascaro

"I do property maintenance and construction, so I can't wait for the nice weather."

"I'm getting tired of wearing my winter running gear."

"Yes I am. It gets cold waiting for the public transit."

"I'm sick of it every year March 1st, every year."

## What do you think?

E-mail: [editorial@forterietimes.com](mailto:editorial@forterietimes.com) or call 905-871-3100, ext. 207

## What happened to health care issue?

Dear Editor,

Spring is the time for renewal and re-growth. It is the time that we renew our resolve to get out medical services back to Fort Erie and Port Colborne and to fight to regain our rights to having a hospital that is for the people of the community, as it was built to be.

The Yellow Shirt Brigade will step out, and be a flash of colour, just like the Daffodils are after a long cold dormant winter, and we welcome all the help we can get to fight the good fight, for all our lives. We cannot, and will not, be

quitters, as our long battle has kept us in sight of government and other communities, and changes have been made. Many more can, and must be made for our Hospital system to survive the blight put on it by mismanagement and uncaring individuals.

I was away for a few weeks but kept in touch of the situation in Fort Erie and the Region by reading about it online. I was really appalled by the situation we are in, as I saw the community through the writer's eyes and was not living in it. I saw what outsiders saw, and by what they judged Niagara. We

would not score very highly on a chart of where is a great place to live and raise your family, nor would we rank very highly on a chart of where you want to invest your money and your lives.

What happened to the community where over 5,000 people went to a Town Hall type meeting to show that they cared about our health issues, and later filled busses to go to Queen's Park to show that we were against the cuts and changes to our health care and demise of our community hospitals?

Joy Russell  
Ridgeway

## JOIN TODAY... Christmas is coming

There are 4 weeks left for a chance to win a free \$50 deposit compliments of your Fort Erie Credit Union\* Open or make a deposit to your Christmas Club Account until April 30, 2011. Ask your Member Service Representative for details. \*

\*One random winner will be chosen each week.

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### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

#### (1) MUNICIPAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER (Competition No. 06-2011)

As the result of a retirement, the Town's Legal and Legislative Services is seeking a Municipal Law Enforcement Officer. In this non-union position, you will proactively ensure compliance with and/or enforce town by-laws, certain provincial statutes and regulations, conduct investigations, collect/receive evidence, issue/receive notices, summonses and orders, and assist in the prosecution of alleged offenders, with a particular emphasis on property standards, zoning, parking and neighbourhood complaints. With a valid driver's license and a college diploma in a related discipline, you possess or are working towards certification as a Municipal Law Enforcement Officer and/or Property Standards Officer.

Want to know more? Visit [www.town.forterie.ca](http://www.town.forterie.ca) under Town Services, Employment Opportunities. The deadline for receiving applications is 5:00 p.m., FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2011.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### (1) **PLAY SAFE** @ the **Fort Erie Skatepark**

#### Use of Safety Equipment is Strongly Recommended

Wear a Helmet, Knee & Elbow Pads, and Wrist Guards

Children under 12 should be supervised by Adult

Ride & Skate in Control and at your Ability Level

Do not add Obstacles, Materials or Equipment to Park

Never Ride Alone

Only Use the Skatepark when it is Dry

#### PROTECT YOURSELF – WEAR THE GEAR

- Wearing a helmet has been shown to reduce serious head injuries by up to 85%
- Choose the right helmet for the sport
- Make sure your helmet fits – adjust the straps and pads for a proper fit
- Make sure the helmet has a certification label inside

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL/ QUOTATION TENDERS

#### (1) #06-2011 MATERIAL TESTING SERVICES AND GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATION 2011/2012

Sealed requests for quotation clearly marked as to content, will be received by Amanda D'Angelo, Purchasing Department, until

**TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2011 AT 2:00 P.M.**

Quotation forms may be picked up in the Engineering Department at the Town of Fort Erie, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario, L2A 2S6 starting on Wednesday, March 30, 2011.

Questions concerning this project may be directed to Tom Kuckly, Manager of Engineering, 905-871-1600 Ext. 2402

## Comments are 'unbecoming' of a board member

From Page 3

Ward 3 Coun. Bob Steckley, who motioned to remove Koutroulakis from the board, admits everyone is entitled to their own opinion.

He welcomes criticism through phone calls and emails, but doesn't tolerate the level Koutroulakis has taken it to.

"I do have a problem with someone who takes it to the extreme that this individual has and is trash-talking members of council on a daily basis," said Steckley.

The councillor also feels the comments made are unbecoming of a board member who represents the Town of Fort Erie and that continuing



**These comments also have the potential to harm the image of the Bridgeburg BIA."**

— Bob Steckley

with this approach can have a negative impact on the area.

"These comments also have the potential to harm the image of the Bridgeburg BIA," said Steckley.

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Previously, Ward 1 Coun. Stephen Passero provided a warning to the BIA board about this behaviour on Facebook, which Steckley feels Koutroulakis did not take seriously.

"He flagrantly hasn't heeded that warning," said Steckley.

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# Auto recycler wants to help with students' education

Kris Dubé  
The Times

A group of students at Fort Erie Secondary School are excited about their new car... but they do have to share it.

On Tuesday, even Miller, from Miller's Auto Recycling visited his former high school with a 1996 Chevrolet Malibu in tow, to donate to FESS's transportation technology program, where students learn about the trade of auto mechanics.

Miller said it is important for businesses who are able to make donations like this to follow through with this ability, putting fuel in the tank of education for students who are interested in the field.

"It's very important to train our future," said Miller. "They need the support of businesses to keep the trade alive," he continued.

Miller elaborated further, saying that making this donation was an easy decision and that this sort of generosity is what will hopefully keep these students interested in how automobiles work and provide them with as much knowledge as possible.

"Without them, we won't have anyone to work on the cars of the future," said Miller.

Brad Ziegler, the program's teacher is extremely thankful for the local business' thoughtfulness, saying that without these donations from the community, it would be tough to provide the opportunities these students have at their disposal.

"They've been very supportive of us over the years," said Ziegler.

He also pointed out that there aren't any students in the class, who don't want to be there and that all of them are passionate about the trade.

"We have a group

of kids that are very interested in the automotive industry," he said.

Chad Ott finished his Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program with the Town of Fort Erie last semester and said this is definitely a career he hopes to pursue when he graduates.

"I just have a love for cars, I can't stay away from them," he said.

Anyone in the community who would like to make a similar donation to the program with used vehicles or anything with a motor on it" such as lawnmowers and weed-eaters can contact Ziegler at FESS.



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times  
Evan Miller, of Miller's Auto Recycling, with students in the transportation technology program at Fort Erie Secondary School on Tuesday, along with teacher Brad Ziegler.

check  
this  
out



**Author visit: Terry Falls**  
Winner of Leacock Medal for Humour for his political satire *The Best Laid Plans*. He will be at the Centennial Branch on Wed. Apr. 6 at 7 p.m. to promote his latest best seller *The High Road*, \$2 admission

**Poetry Night**  
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(\*cannot be used in conjunction with any other special offer)

## Announcement

**Dr. Terry McKay**  
and his dental staff are pleased to welcome  
**TOM ADAMS, D.D.S.**  
to our practice.



Dr. Adams graduated from E.L. Crossley in Pelham in 2000 and completed his undergrad in biology at Brock University in 2003. In 2007, he graduated dentistry from the University of Western Ontario. Starting February 11th, 2011, Dr. Adams will be available for appointments on Fridays at this office at 179 Ridge Road, Ridgeway. To schedule an appointment, please call 905-894-5555.



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## Eagles make five big donations



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Last Saturday, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, along with its ladies auxiliary, made donations of \$1,500 to five different local charities. Receiving cheques were Wigs for Kids, TASC Niagara, Relay for Life, Meals on Wheels and St. Michael's Catholic Church's soup kitchen. Niagara Falls MPP Kim Cralor also donated a cheque to Meals on Wheels on behalf of the province. Seen here are George Naylor, Kim Cralor, Meals on Wheels executive director Nancy Ryan and Barbara Naylor.

# Stop discussing Bay Beach, says Martin

Kris Dubé  
The Times

"The Bay Beach issue should be over."

This is a quote spoken by mayor Doug Martin this week, when he sat down with Times to discuss the current state of affairs in Fort Erie.

After last week's meeting, when Ward 3 Coun. Bob Steckley voted in favour of moving ahead with the Crystal Beach Gateway Project, changing his stance on this controversial and heated issue so residents would not be faced with paying for a multi-million dollar lawsuit and the development officially became no longer a responsibility of council.

But his past Monday, when a report was received by council simply for informational purposes, it still consumed about two hours of discussion at the meeting, mostly with questions about the costs con-

necting to the project that were laid out in the report.

Martin says it is all members of council's right to ask questions, but it is certainly time to put this behind them at the same time.

"We have made a decision to move forward and we have a lot of other things on our plate," said Martin.

He feels the private-public partnership between the Town and the Mollnaro Group has taken long enough to come this far and some councillors continuing to challenge the credibility of Town staff seems to be another way of impeding progress.

"We seem to be stuck on trying to frustrate this development," said Martin.

Staff warned in the past that breaking the contract could make the Town vulnerable to a lawsuit and some councillors did not believe this to be true.

A second opinion was received, at the cost of \$20,000 and it basically

mirrored the information already provided... that closing the deal at this stage was not recommended.

"The information we received from our solicitor, our chief administrative officer and from our director of finance all should've been enough to convince all members of council that we're obligated to proceed with this," said Martin.

The mayor has called for a halt on discussing this issue until the site plan approval process begins, but until then there will be no further delegations on Bay Beach at council meetings and if it is brought up by a councillor, Martin will rule them out of order.

"We just can't seem to move past this," he said.

On Monday night in the council chambers, Ward 1 Coun. Stephen Passero became frustrated with the actions of Ward 5 Coun. Don Lubberts, after he asked questions of clarification for about an hour on

the report being discussed and challenged the figures outlined in the report.

"How many more weeks are you going to try and find ways to frustrate the agreement?"

Passero said staff should be working on other projects and by-laws that are coming down the pipe soon, and not continually have to write reports and documents of clarification for members of council, something that was requested on Monday.

"How many more weeks do I have to endure Bay Beach? It's done," said Passero.

"I can't answer that right now," Lubberts responded.

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# Sports

Editor Kris Dubé

905-871-3100 ext. 207 editorial@forterietimes.com

Saturday, April 2, 2011



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) investigator Matt Quart, left, with Sarah Cochrane, Chrissy Cochrane, Craig Cochrane, Owen Cochrane and Andrew Cochrane, along with Elise Boisclair, also of the RCMP, at Scotiabank inside the County Fair Mall last Friday, posing with the Stanley Cup. The event was part of the Celebration of Hockey Tour. Fort Erie was one of two stops in Ontario.



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School (RCBHS) students Carrie Reichert, left, and Tianna Barnes, both in grade 11, practicing their hurdle skills at Pride Field on Wednesday. Both students, along with phys-ed department head Brent Mergl are looking forward to the spring season of sports for the Blue Devils.

## Stanley Cup comes to town

Kris Dubé  
The Times

The Holy Grail of hockey drew out hundreds of people to Scotiabank last Friday.

As part of the Celebration of Hockey Tour, the Stanley Cup was on display the financial institution's County Fair Mall location for four hours, with local hockey fans waiting hours to get a glimpse of the sport's most recognizable piece of hardware.

Youngster Dirk Bannon saw the Cup for the first time in his life, while proudly sporting his Boston Bruins jersey.

"It was amazing," he said. Bannon said his favourite player on the Bruins is captain Zdeno Chara and believes he will lead his squad to competing for the top prize at the end of the National Hockey League (NHL)'s postseason, starting in less than two weeks.

"They might not be playing well right now, but

they're going to win," he said.

The Cochrane family from Stevensville waited over an hour to pose with the Cup for a photo taken by the event's commissioned professional photographer, along with another shot by The Times.

Sarah Cochrane said it was a long time in line, but in the end she is glad they stuck it out.

See Page 15

## Blue Devils finalizing rosters

Kris Dubé  
The Times

The Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School (RCBHS) Blue Devils are looking for another successful Spring season, before the final bell rings to break for the Summer in June.

Brent Mergl, physical education department head at the high school said

there is quite the buzz around the gym and on Pride Field right now, as a handful of teams are in the process of being put together right now.

Soccer, baseball, track and field, along with badminton are the focal point of athletic students right now.

On Wednesday at RCBHS, several students were either lacing up their running shoes, or picking

out a badminton racquet immediately after classes adjourned for the day.

"It's probably one of the busiest times of year with the kids," said Mergl.

The gym teacher looks forward to the talent and dedication the school has with its athletes and hopes the success from last year can be built on.

See Page 15

*"Privileged to care for your family at Yesterday's Prices"*

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**Route: 1041A - Fort Erie - 52 papers**  
(Pettit, small part of Garrison)

**Route: 1039 - Fort Erie - 44 papers**  
(Sims, Taylor, Tenth, Upper Oakes)

**Route: 1037A - Fort Erie - 39 papers**  
(Walden, Murdoch, DiPietro, Concession)

**Route: 2001 - Oakhill Forest - 50 papers**  
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## Legal Notices

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS**  
IN THE ESTATE OF PAUL RUCH,  
ALSO KNOWN AS PAUL NATHANAL RUCH,  
DECEASED

AJ2 personal income tax return for the Estate of PAUL RUCH, ALSO KNOWN AS PAUL NATHANAL RUCH, DECEASED, late of the County of First, in the Municipality of Niagara, who died on the 22nd day of October, 2010, are notified and put notice on the undersigned on the 2nd day of May, 2011, after which date the estate will be distributed with regard to the content of which the undersigned shall then have notice, and the undersigned will not be liable to any person of whose claim the undersigned did not then have notice.

Dated this 22nd day of May, 2011.  
Marie Macdonald, Estate Trustee for her said estate.  
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**Route: 1041A - Fort Erie - 52 papers**  
(Pettit, small part of Garrison)

**Route: 1039 - Fort Erie - 44 papers**  
(Sims, Taylor, Tenth, Upper Oakes)

**Route: 1037A - Fort Erie - 39 papers**  
(Walden, Murdoch, DiPietro, Concession)

**Route: 2001 - Oakhill Forest - 50 papers**  
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## General Employment

**CHERRY HILL CLUB JOB OPPORTUNITY**  
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912 Cherry Hill Blvd.  
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10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Monday - Friday

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ALSO KNOWN AS PAUL NATHANAL RUCH,  
DECEASED

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Dated this 22nd day of May, 2011.  
Marie Macdonald, Estate Trustee for her said estate.  
New, Jackson & Redpath  
280 Ridge Road  
Niagara Falls, Ontario  
L2R 6N9  
Telephone: 905-884-6228  
Fax: 905-890-5356

## General Employment

**Route: 4010 - Crystal Beach - 35 papers**  
(Willowood, Rosewood, Westwood, Erie)

## General Employment

**Route: 1047A - Crescent Park - 53 papers**  
(Buffalo, Ruby, Orchard, Ferndale, Scott)

**Route: 1041A - Fort Erie - 52 papers**  
(Pettit, small part of Garrison)

**Route: 1039 - Fort Erie - 44 papers**  
(Sims, Taylor, Tenth, Upper Oakes)

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(Walden, Murdoch, DiPietro, Concession)

**Route: 2001 - Oakhill Forest - 50 papers**  
(Shawnee, Barker, Centralia, Ozark, Oakhill)

**Route: 3003 - Stevensville - 50 papers**  
(part of Stevensville Rd.)

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Ridgeway, ON  
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Monday - Friday

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- Coordinating and clearing freight shipments
- Development and maintenance of tariff profiles for new and existing accounts
- Daily preparation of EDI and manual release requests for various commodities
- Daily completion and presentation of confirming entries;
- Ongoing development of client relationships
- Providing proactive client service and handling client inquiries

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- 2 years + rating and releasing experience with a customs broker
- Practical knowledge of procedures and processes, customs software, MS Office applications
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- Ability to work in a fast-paced team environment; multi-tasking, organizing and problem-solving
- CCS designation A PLUS or related Industry education
- Excellent written and spoken English

## General Employment



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**Best Western  
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Interviews will be done on site  
Please bring a resume and references  
All positions will be located in Guelph, Ontario.  
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### Marking your milestones.

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## Deaths

**KING, Ruth Cameron** - On Friday April 1, 2011 Ruth passed away peacefully in London, Ontario at the age of 82 years. Ruth will be sadly missed by her daughter Lori Romer, London, as well as her four grandchildren, Stefan, Lyn, Jan and Jens, and three great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her son Tim Overham. Friends may call at **WILLIAMS FUNERAL HOME**, 722 Ridge Road N., Ridgeway on Tuesday, April 5 from 11:00 - 1:00. A service of celebration will follow at 1:00 at the Williams Chapel. Interment will be next to her son at Windmill Point Church Cemetery. Donations in her memory may be made to the Gideon Bible Society or the Alzheimer Society. On-line guest register at [www.williamsfuneralhome.ca](http://www.williamsfuneralhome.ca)

**MCKINNON, Kenneth Norman** - Passed away in Burnaby B.C. on December 19th, 2010. Predeceased by his parents Zebbie and Norman McKinnon and his brother Clifford Thomas McKinnon and sister in law Diana McKinnon. Survived by his younger brother Keith David, sister in law Carol McKinnon, 2 nephews Mark, William and Kevin Norman McKinnon and 2 nieces Cheryl Ross and Laurie Reay. Interment will be held at McAfee Cemetery on April 9th at 10 a.m. Arrangements entrusted to **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, Fort Erie.

**NELSON, Margaret** - At Veterans Hospital, West Palm Beach, Florida on Sunday December 26th, 2010 in her 92nd year. Beloved wife of the late Archie Nelson, and the late Bruce Nelson. Mother-in-law of William Butner. Loved Grandma of Faith (Lise) Watson and Great-Grandma of Kai Watson. A memorial service for Margaret will be held Saturday April 9th, 10:30 a.m. at McAfee Cemetery, Fort Erie with The Reverend Raye Brown officiating. In lieu of flowers if so desired, donations to the S.P.C.A., March of Dimes, or Douglas Memorial Hospital Auxiliary would be appreciated by the family. Arrangements entrusted to the **HAMMOND-DAVIDSON FUNERAL HOME**, Fort Erie. On-line condolences at [www.hammond-davidsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.hammond-davidsonfuneralhome.com)

Your presence we miss,  
Your memory we treasure;  
Loving you always,  
Forgetting you never.

Memorial Versa #49  
To remember a loved one with this verse  
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## Deaths

**PLYLEY, Donald George** - On Thursday, March 31st, at the St. Catharines General Hospital, after a courageous battle, Donald George Plyley passed away peacefully in his 79th year surrounded by his loving family. Beloved husband of Margaret (Woehl) for 56 years, cherished father of Judy (Sterling) Wood and Susan (Matt) Ward. Loving papa of Karlene and Lacey Wilmore, and step grandfather of Patrick (Sarah) Wood, Jody (Tom) House, Cathy (Scott) Popert and Tim (Sara) Ward. Don is survived by his brother John Plyley, sisters-in-law Gert Higgins, Evelyn Woehl, Elsie Woehl, Marlene Woehl, and brother-in-law John Barich. Predeceased by his parents Milton and Eva Plyley, sisters-in-law Wynny Plyley, Helen Barich, brothers-in-law Allan, Bud, and Russell Woehl. He is survived by many nieces, nephews and step great grandchildren. A lifelong resident of Stevensville, Don spent his working years in road construction and was the proprietor of Ridgemount Quarries with his brother John. Don was a long time member of Dominion Lodge in Ridgeway, Faith Reformed Church in Black Creek and Stevensville Volunteer Fire Department. He loved traveling to his 'Back 40', Maple Island, tractors, and dogs. At his recent cremation has taken place. Visitation Sunday from 1-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. at **WILLIAMS FUNERAL HOME**, 722 Ridge Road, Ridgeway. Funeral service will be held Monday April 4, 2011 at Faith Reformed Church, Black Creek Road, Stevensville at 1 p.m. If so desired, donations in memorial can be made to Faith Reformed Church or a charity of your choice. You are invited to share condolences to the family or hold cremations at [www.williamsfuneralhome.ca](http://www.williamsfuneralhome.ca)

Time takes away the edge of grief,  
But memory turns back every leaf.

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## In memoriam

**Fred Popering Sr.**  
October 21, 1917 - April 3, 1986  
Remembering with love,  
our father and grandfather  
who passed away 25 years ago.  
Love, Fred, Adele, Krista and Philip.



**Josephine Wisbey**

July 4, 1929 - April 1, 2001

Remembering my lovely,  
We do it every day.

Missing you is the hardest part,  
As it never goes away.

To hear your voice, to see your smile,  
To sit with you, and talk awhile  
Would be our greatest wish.

Today, tomorrow, our whole life through,  
We shall always love, and remember you,  
Love, Tom, Tim and Laura

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## In memoriam



**Kenneth (Ike) Sparling**

We thought of you with love today,

But that is nothing new,

We thought of you yesterday

And the days before that too.

We think of you in silence

We often speak your name,

All we have are memories

And your picture in a frame.

Your memory is our keepsake

With which we'll never part.

God has you in His keeping

We have you in our heart.

Three years - but always

Remembered and loved.

Pat, Mary Pat, Terri, Brian, Steve, Stephanie,

Joe, Mike, Mandy, Micaela and Jake.

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# School looks for success with younger students

From Page 11

The boys soccer team went to the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations (OFSAA) finals, the girls team made it to Zone 3 finals and two pole vaulters placed in third and fourth last year. Elijah Kalemnik, now a grade 10 student came in third place, while his teammate Jesse Marci was one position in the standings behind him, coming short of a medal.

"Our expertise is with our grade 10 students now," said Mergl.

There has been a handful of RCBHS students to be successful in the sport of pole vaulting, including Jason Wurster, who is currently ranked the best in

Canada.

"Hopefully we'll see him at the Olympics, said Mergl of the student he taught up until his graduation in 2004.

He uses Wurster as an example to his new students, explaining to them that he had no prior experience with the sport before taking it up at RCBHS.

"He was the same as you in grade nine," is the message he tells them.

Mergl said in order to be successful, students must have heart and dedication and be willing to develop and learn.

"I can make you run faster, but you have to be fast to begin with."

Grade 11 students Carrie Reichelt and Tianna Barnes are active in other sports at RCBHS throughout the year,

but both always look forward to track and field season.

"It helps us get in shape, after sitting around all winter," said Reichelt.

"You feel really energized after," Barnes added.

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From Page 11

"The wait was long, but it was worth it," she said. Elise Boisclair, an investigator with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police's Hamilton-Niagara Detachment, along with her colleague Matt Quart, were on hand to supervise the event.

She said there was no

need for crowd control, because everyone who visited was beaming with excitement, getting so close to the sacred trophy.

"It was a great opportunity to see the Stanley Cup so close and everyone was really happy," she said a few days after the event.

As a fan of the Montreal Canadiens, the NHL team that has won the Cup more

than anyone else, she said it was personally rewarding to participate. She is also proud to be a member of the RCMP and to be a part of this experience last week, making her even more proud to be Canadian.

"Those are two big images in Canada," she said, referring to the RCMP and the Stanley Cup.

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&  
AWARDS NIGHT

COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM  
FORT ERIE PUBLIC LIBRARY, CENTENNIAL BRANCH  
136 Gilmore Road, Fort Erie

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**7 PM**  
Refreshments & Door Prizes

**RSVP 905-871-6626**

**QUEST SPEAKER**  
**Bill MacPhee**  
"Children Service"

Bill MacPhee was born and raised in Fort Erie and runs a successful media company, Magpie Media Inc. Bill travels across North America and is a well sought-after keynote presenter on Living with Schizophrenia. Once a client of The Adult Literacy Council, Bill will be speaking about how his tutor and the council changed his life around.

## Bricks & Bouquets

If you have a brick or bouquet send it to editorial@forterietimes.com or phone 905-871-3100, ext. 210 and leave a message

**Brick**  
To one councillor who clearly waited to see how one of his colleagues would be voting on a report this Monday, before he raised his own hand. We need independent thinkers representing us, not councillor's who can't make their own decisions.

**Bouquet**  
To people who generate intelligent discussion on local issues through the Fort Erie Times Facebook fan page.

**Brick**  
To everyone who cannot put the Bay Beach issue behind them, regardless of what your position is on the controversial development. There is so much more to talk about in this town, other than a 12-storey condo building near the Beach.

**Bouquet**  
To everyone who participated in the annual Mayor's Cup, raising

money for the Head Injury Association of Fort Erie.

**Brick**  
To people who still insist the Town would not face a lawsuit if its private-public partnership with the Molinaro Park was cancelled. Two legal experts have said on two occasions it would happen. They are lawyers. You are not.

**Bouquet**  
To people who do positive things for the community like organizing events and volunteering on committees, while doing their best to promote Fort Erie as a great place to live and visit.

**Brick**  
To the condition of Fort Erie's roads. They are in terrible shape and let's hope fixing them is on the top of the Town's priority list.

**Bouquet**  
To local service clubs that do great work for the community.

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Perfect author visit for an election year. Winner of Lambda Medal for Humour, Canada Reads for his political satire The Best Last Words Here with his new bestseller The High Road. Thanks to Canada Council for the Arts for this reading.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 7:00 PM. CENTENNIAL BRANCH. \$2.

**POETRY NIGHT**

NOT your average, boring poetry reading. Great guest poets; enjoy an open mic session, too! Come to listen, come to read!

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 7:00 PM. CENTENNIAL BRANCH. \$2

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**NIAGARA VOCAL ENSEMBLE**

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 7:30 PM. CENTENNIAL BRANCH. \$5.00.

**BLACK SWAN**

Natalie Portman in her Oscar winning role.

THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 6:30 PM. CENTENNIAL BRANCH. \$2.

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**TINY TALES**

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TUESDAYS, STARTING APRIL 12, 10:15 AM. CENTENNIAL.

WEDNESDAYS, STARTING APRIL 13, 10:15 AM. CRYSTAL RIDGE. \$5 for six weeks.

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A fun-for-girls cartoon for ages 8-12.

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# The more we know, THE HEALTHIER WE'LL BE

## April is Cancer Awareness Month

Living with cancer: stress and pain management  
Every year more than 150,000 Canadians are diagnosed with cancer. Many of them choose to fight this terrible disease and not let it beat them. But how can their pain, stress, and fear best be managed?

### PAIN RELIEF

Fighting cancer doesn't necessarily mean having to live with pain. Several medications are available that relieve the pain caused by chemotherapy and radio-

therapy treatments. The care teams that treat cancer patients can support them and help them find the medications that are best suited to their needs.

### STRESS MANAGEMENT

Stress is an ever-present part of life for a person suffering from cancer, beginning with the diagnosis, during treatment, and even after recovery. There are, however, many strategies for reducing the impact of these stress factors. Cancer patients should be

coached to express their emotions — crying, yelling, or hitting a pillow are all ways to relieve stress. Laughing, getting involved in favourite pastimes, and having fun get patients thinking about something other than their illness and on the road to well-being. Doctors also encourage cancer patients to stay physically active. Even the simplest exercise, such as walking and swimming, can relieve the side-effects of treatments as well as reduce stress, improve spirits, increase energy, stimulate the appetite, and help patients sleep better.

Every year the Canadian Cancer Society organizes a daffodil fundraising campaign across the country. The aim of this activity is to fund cancer research and community support services.

## April is Daffodil Month

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